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## HINTS AND NOTIONS.

**Upholsteries.**—B. L. SOLOMON'S SONS strongly favor the introduction of cretonne, and show a considerable variety of patterns. The Watteau designs appear to be the most popular, and they are displayed in a great diversity of subjects. The heavier cretonne with a plain all-over pattern is likewise used, but not so generally. Brocaded damask, the real old fashioned material, is also pretty generally found to be in fashion. The tapestry patterns showing exaggerated subjects are also much made. The Arabian saddle bags are still used for easy chairs, sofas, etc. The Bombay and Decca shawls are likewise shown for this same purpose. It was noticed in the entire stock shown, that there was an absence of demitints, the solid colors being preferred. Hangings for dining rooms have designs of fruit and flowers; silk turcomans with dark green centres and heavy oriental borders, are sold for reception rooms or parlors. Appliqué figures cut from gold cloth are attached upon velours for borderings, with an effect that is certainly most acceptable.

**Opera Chairs.**—A new opera chair which seems to combine the essential elements of comfort and convenience has been introduced. All theatre goers have experienced the annoyance consequent on their neighbors "pressing engagements" between acts, which together with the Gainsboro' hat of the ladies are the only features to mar the enjoyment of a good performance. In this new opera chair the inventor has striven to eradicate the former evil by the construction of an adjustable back, so that a slight inclination of the body causes the back to spring into a perpendicular position, thus allowing more space in the aisles and saving the annoyance of being brushed against by a person passing out behind; the chair is also supplied with a hat and umbrella receptacle, and it is believed with these troubles off his mind the pleasure of the theatre goer is necessarily enhanced. The chair is either upholstered or covered with fibre seating, and its adaption to the lines of the body renders long sitting endurable.

**Roman Glassware** is said to have been marvellously fragile. A glass-maker, who lived during the reign of the Emperor Nero, produced glass vessels of wonderful lightness, which commanded as high a price as about \$150 each. Martial speaks of them as "glassy vapor." Of this delicate kind of manufacture is a specimen in the Rouen Museum, in the shape of a drinking vessel of white glass with a handle, the circumference of which is 13 inches, and its height 4 inches, while its weight is a fraction under 2 ounces.

**Pier Glasses**, the long and the oblong as well, are not fashionable. The small heavily framed trifles that seem more as ornaments than furniture, are now "the thing." In the bedrooms looking glasses are said to be more plentiful than heretofore, so that the ladies who miss the last look in the parlor can find compensation in additional facilities in the bedrooms.

**Venetian forms** for furniture work is a novelty, and not altogether pleasing. The characteristic is a heavy and ponderous structure with an appearance of solidity rather than beauty. The Renaissance figures, grotesque and exaggerated, form a great part of the ornamentation, panels and arms and crests are carved in bold relief.

**Imitation of Ground Glass** can be easily produced by dissolving about two table-spoons full of Epsom salts in a pint of lager-beer, and painting the glass with the mixture. When it is dry the glass will appear as if frosted, and the effect is very satisfactory.

**Screens**—The latest is beveled glass in a brass frame, the glass to be in small squares as the Queen Anne windows.

**Paste for Glass.**—Glue soaked in strong vinegar and heated to boiling, with fine flour added until it becomes rather thick, adheres strongly to glass, and may be kept without spoiling.

A new German soup plate has a raised border along the inner edge, for the convenience of placing bones, salt, etc.

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## HINTS AND NOTIONS.

Window Shades are preferable if colored a delicate stone, amber, pearl or cream. These shades are quite as cheerful and much more durable than white. The shades should be hung close to the window pane on self-adjustable rollers, and ornamented with a small metallic handle for raising and lowering. Tassels are no longer used. Occasionally two large beads covered with twist are placed on the curtain stick eight inches apart.

Thermometers are ungainly though interesting articles. Cheap ones are hardly decorative enough for ornaments, but if the scale and tube are removed from the usual ugly case, and placed on a beveled edged board, covered with plush or satin the effect is very different. The satin or plush may be ornamented by a piece of embroidered ribbon, placed obliquely, embroidering with a space for the scale, or a painted or appliquéd flower, may be added to suit the taste.

An Exhibition of sanitary and decorative appliances and means, is to be opened under royal patronage at Humphreys' Hall, Knightsbridge, England, on June 2nd next. The exhibits will be divided into seven classes embracing hygienic, rational and artistic dress, food products, appliances for the sick room, home decoration and adornment, cottage hygiene, instances of hygienic decoration, heating and lighting.

Sewer gas bears evidence to either one or more deficiencies in construction, badly made sewers, insufficient fall, and a want of ventilation. If a sewer is so badly laid as to cause deposits and consequent decomposition of the sewerage material, ventilation is not alone the remedy—the sewer should be reconstructed at once.

Screens with a frame work of open-work brass, and with panels of dark crimson plush worked with birds or other appropriate designs, are beautiful. An excellent effect may be had by inserting in the centre of each panel a piece of heavy cretonne of tapestry pattern, and bordered top and bottom with plush.

Stained Glass Windows can now be made at home by attaching to the plain window in artistic combinations, the clippings and waste from the bench of the glass cutter. There is a little wheel sold for something less than a dollar which will cut the glass, and with this the amateur can shape the pieces to suit himself.

Bedroom Hangings may be in one color. Soft blues or pinks, or delicate creams, bright withal but not gaudy, and fringes of the same color, with cords and tassels, will be sufficient ornamentation. Economical, effective and tasteful material can easily be found in the large variety of cretonnes and Madras.

Shams for pillows and sheets are fast disappearing, and the ornamentation, such as is desired, must be upon the pillow case, or, following the custom of nobility in the disposal of their crests, have the monogram worked in the corner of the sheet.

Dados of matting have been popular for so long a time that we have become pretty well accustomed to them, but dados of black cashmere are novelties. They may be decorated with appliqué figures, and otherwise attractively finished.

Copper color has been considered fashionable for some time, and now copper itself is assuming a place in the economy of domestic decoration. Copper lamps, particularly, are seen, and with a judicious contrast of silver ornament, the metal shows up nicely.

Linen draperies, in ecru shades, having lace on the edges and bands of Turkey red next, alternated with lace inserting, have a very pleasing effect.

Summer fire-places are no longer to be occupied by grasses and that sort of open-lot product, but by a neat Japanese screen just the right size to set into the opening.

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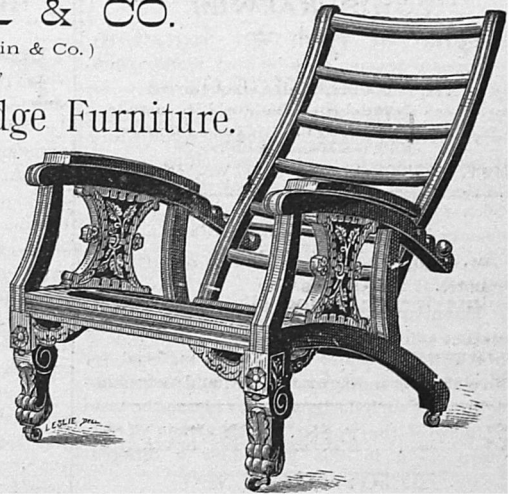
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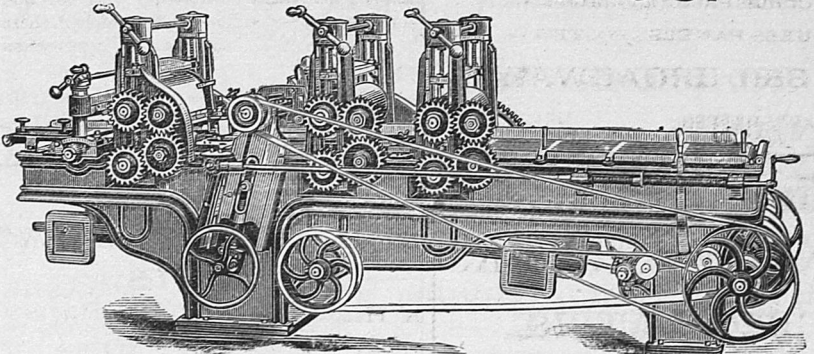
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## HINTS AND NOTIONS.

Screen frames may be very readily ebonized. The following recipe is believed to be excellent: Infuse gall-nuts in which rusty iron nails have been soaked; paint the wood with a strong decoction of logwood chips several times. When dry give a coat of vinegar in which rusty iron has been placed. Dissolve beeswax in turpentine by setting it in a warm place, apply warm with a brush, and rub till it shines.

Furniture covering might be made attractive and present a diversity of patterns by substituting a plain, one-colored material for the elaborate and figured stuffs, and embroidering upon it such designs as may please the taste or fancy of the worker. Each article of furniture could in this way show a different design.

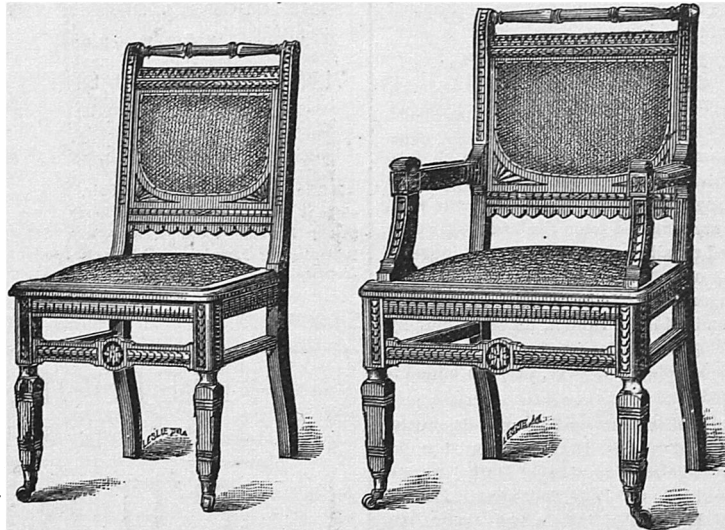
Tapestry effects are attempted in fabrics woven in imitation of the old Gobelines, not, however, with the best of results, as a woven fabric can but miserably simulate the beautiful productions, the labor of skilful hands directed by hearts devoted to their work.

Lace curtains should be starched and stretched on a frame, and when perfectly dry ironed on the wrong side, as this tends to throw the figure out on the opposite side or face.

Large pillows are going out of fashion, and with them are disappearing the "shams" that were so difficult to keep in place.

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## HINTS AND NOTIONS.

Madras Muslins are now printed with copies from cathedral windows, where geometrical figures and picturesque patterns are produced in full reds, purple, various shades of olive green, blue and yellow, and sombre brown and gray. The resemblance to stained glass, when this muslin is tightly stretched across the window frame, is deceiving.

Bolsters are being made large and round (about 12 to 15 inches in diameter) and flat at the ends, and in very handsome rooms the spread and bolster cover is made of satin, brocade, raw silk or other stuffs to match the furniture. The ends of the bolster corded, and the trimming to match that used on the furniture.

Annual Furniture Exhibition is now being held at Agricultural Hall, London, opening on the 23rd of April. It is said to be remarkably fine, and a great improvement over preceding years.

Wood carving is the subject of a prize essay in Germany. The Munich University has offered the sum of \$750 for the best history of German wood-carving art from the earliest to the most recent times.

A Moresque Overmantel can have the woodwork painted white, the numerous small plate glass mirrors in the back should be beveled and surrounded by stamped maroon or crimson velvet.

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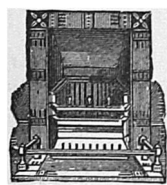
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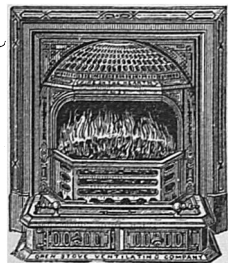




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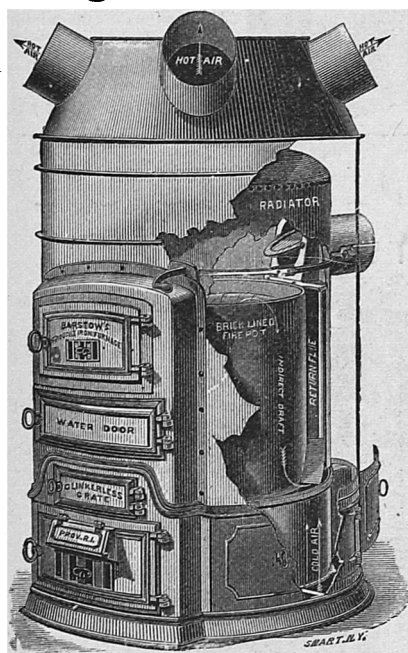


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Contains many important features found in no other, is absolutely gas-tight and free from dust, superior to steam heat at one-third the cost. Seven years practical test has proven its superiority over cast-iron furnaces, both as regards health and economy. Also, a full line of Ranges, Parlor Stoves, and Fire-place Heaters. Estimates furnished upon application.

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**BEST FURNACES IN THE WORLD.**  
For Hard Coal or Wood,  
(WROUGHT OR CAST IRON),  
ARE MADE BY

**RICHARDSON & BOYNTON CO.**

Embody new 1882 improvements, never before adopted: Contain more practical features: Are more durable: Cost less to keep in order: Use less fuel: and will give more heat and a larger volume of pure air than any furnace made in the United States.

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RANGES FOR FAMILY USE:

FIRE-PLACE HEATERS,  
HEATING STOVES, Etc.

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## HINTS AND NOTIONS.

—\*—

**Decorating Pottery.**—The difficulty experienced by students in clay modeling, who were compelled to work without having access to a pottery, has been principally in the want of some material that would be sufficiently pliable to be shaped into the many and diverse forms necessary in their labors, and possessing as well the quality of hardening at a proper and suitable time. The desirability of some such article has been one of the open secrets of the trade, or at least of its study, and from what we learn of a substance introduced by a lady artist in Boston, we are led to believe that she has found a way to overcome the objections, and has given to students something which may be modeled into flowers, ferns, vines, leaves, human and animal figures, or any of the diversity of decorative objects which it may be desirable to appliqué upon pottery, china or glassware. The material is a chemical composition, and its advantages lie in its moist and ductile condition, gradually changing into a flint like hardness, until in two weeks from the time of its molding a pin will hardly scratch its surface, and the chipping of a single leaf from the pottery will detach a piece of the very foundation material, while efforts to remove a flower will tear an opening into the jar or vase, so tenacious is the material and so thoroughly does it become a part of the pottery itself. No firing is required, and immediately after modeling the surface is ready to receive the oil color paints, over which a French silicate throws a beautiful gloss that makes an excellent imitation of imported Faience. Various effects of a metallic nature are produced, and Barbotine, Limoges and Palissier wares can be very skillfully counterfeited. We understand a class is to be started to teach the use of the material.

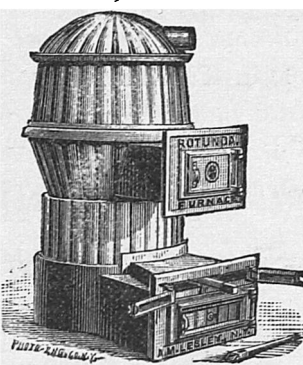
**Wood Decoration.**—A firm in Boston is making a wood decoration that has many of the advantages of carving, and can be sold at about one-tenth the figure that is demanded for the ordinary carved work. The process is a mechanical stamping of various forms upon the work, so that, after stamping, the design has very much the appearance of being hand carved. The extent to which these carvings can be used is almost unlimited. Not only can furniture be beautified and embellished at a slight cost, but also a great variety of panelings and the like, which the expense of decorating in any way has heretofore kept plain. Tables and easels and frames and plaques are treated to the process, and it is often silvered or gilded or bronzed. In car interiors where the long distance traveler is ever inspecting the architecture and finish, it will be a relief to the eye and an addition to the decoration in paint and brush. In house interiors, on organs and, in fact, in every conceivable phase of decoration, this stamped wood may be utilized, and that it is calculated to become popular is self-evident, when the great amount of effect obtained is considered for the small amount of money necessary to expend.

A very elegant **Sofa Cushion** on the upper side shows two strips of rich goods, a sea-green satin, and shrimp pink plush joined together. The centre decoration is very prominent—a design of clustered raised flowers, appliqué and encircled with a narrow piece of lace carefully gathered, giving a pleasing effect. Across each corner is traced an antique pattern of scroll work, wrought with gold and silver cords intermingled, the same twisted together, making an excellent finish to the edge. The back of this oddly beautiful cushion is plain satin of a tint matching one of the front strips.

**Vase Stands** are made quite tall and very light, a slender mahogany stick at each corner serves as a support for a small top piece. The corner sticks incline upward toward each other, and have one or two cross bars between them.

**Cretonne** may be used to place over the back of the old fashioned cane-backed chairs. Let it be cut the shape and size of the chair back, and bordered with worsted.

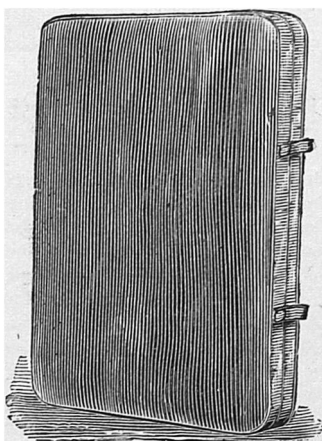
**Illuminated Leather** is now effectively used for panels in the backs of sideboards.



**Rotunda  
Furnace,**

FOR  
Warming Public  
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**BUILDINGS**  
Highest refer-  
ences given.  
Send for Cata-  
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Feathers, Fibre, Moss, Husk and Excelsior.

Slat Cots, Canvas Cots, and all kinds of Hair  
In Rope or Picked.

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**LIVE  
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If you want the **CLEANEST FEATHERS** in the United States, freed from quills dirt, by the latest Improved Thoroughly Cured by buy only those bearing and **STAMPED** not keep them, ask him

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LIVE GESE  
FEATHERS.**  
Steam Dressed.  
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and unripe stock and proved Machinery, and Live Steam, you will our initials on the bag, If your dealer does to get them for you.

**MELLEN & CO.,**

DEALERS IN

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Pine Knots and Hickory for Grates and Open Fire Places.

PHYSICIANS RECOMMEND IT.

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All my Pine wood is cut to my order in the forests of Virginia.

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BETWEEN 1ST AND 2D AVENUES.

Send for Price List, or you can order by telegraph, which is at our expense. Families who use a great deal of wood should consider that in buying wood by the cord, half cord, or one-third cord of us, they get a specified measure, not only a coal cart of wood, but your full moneys worth. We make a specialty of selling the very best Hickory Wood for Grates and Fire-places. All wood bought from us stored in any part of your cellar at our expense.

**JORDAN & BRAUE, Proprietors**

**SAVE YOUR COAL.**

**Eureka Coal Economizer, Gas Consumer and Air Purifier.**

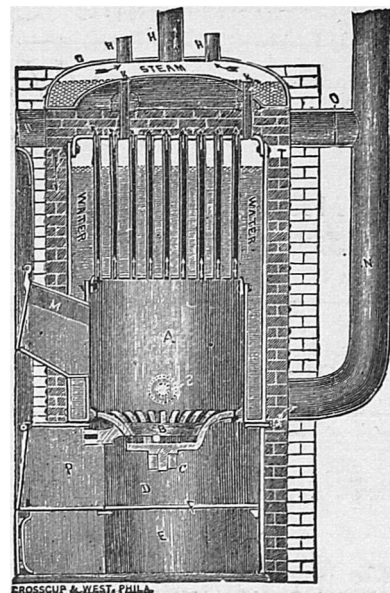
Price 25 Cents per Package, sufficient for One Ton of Coal, with Directions for Use.

It causes the fire to kindle quicker, prevents clinkers, destroys the poisonous gas, and saves 25 per cent. of the coal. For sale by all Grocers and House Furnishing Stores.

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ESTABLISHED 1848. NEW YORK.

Artistic Designs in Gold, Bronze, Hard Woods, etc. Paintings Restored. Regilding and Repairing done in the neatest manner. Special attention given to arranging Galleries and Dwellings. Careful Packing for Shipment by rail or water.

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Takes this opportunity to announce to the public who desire anything in his particular line, that he is able to serve them with the choicest patterns and rich designs. Regilding and Repairing done in the most satisfactory manner. For twenty-seven years with the house of Mons. Gramm.

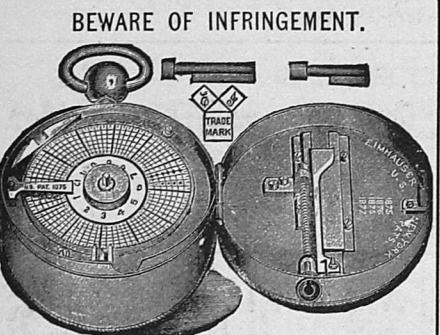
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Of the latest Improved Styles, for Churches, Hotels, Banks, Theatres, Residences, etc. **ANNUNCIATORS** of my Improved Patents. **ELECTRICAL** Work of all descriptions. Special Contract Work a Specialty. Address for Catalogue or otherwise,  
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FOR SALE  
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His Celebrated Numbers,  
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**Joseph Gillott & Sons, New York.**

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**IMPROVED TIME DETECTOR,**  
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Watchmans Time Detectors are Important and Invaluable for all Concerns Employing Watchmen. This Instrument is supplied with twelve different keys for twelve stations in or outside of the buildings, and is warranted complete; the marking apparatus is in the cover of the case; the watch is separate, and therefore secured against repair, expense and trouble. Beware of infringements. N. B.—This firm was established in 1875, and has no connection with any other patentees whatever. Send for Circular to

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**HANKINSON'S Steam Carpet Cleaning Works,**  
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No connection whatever with any other House. The "Original Hankinson," and the Only One of that Name Established in this Business in 1861. Orders by mail or otherwise promptly attended to. No charge for cartage within city limits. Notify if Carpets are to be taken up.

**Open Air Carpet Cleaning Company,**  
**M. WEBSTER'S SON,**  
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OFFICES..... 359 CLINTON STREET, BROOKLYN.  
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All Carpets Cleaned and Aired Separately. No sticks used.  
WAGONS IN CONSTANT ATTENDANCE.  
Orders also received for the **CLINTON RENOVATING CO.**

## HINTS AND NOTIONS.

**Veneering.**—A correspondent of *The Cabinet Maker* (London) gives the following directions for veneering a large surface, say six feet by one foot nine inches, of pine or deal. After preparing the heart side for veneering, swell the other side by placing a layer of damp sawdust overnight; it will in the morning be about three-quarters of an inch hollow on the face side; then size the face side, keeping the back damp until the size is sufficiently dry for the cold, and it will be observed on coming from the cold, to be round on the face or veneered side, and may be kept nearly so by placing the veneered side against a flat board, or the two veneered sides face to face, to dry gradually. Of course after trying this experiment it will be necessary to acquire the judgment of how long the article will require swelling. Considering the deal fairly seasoned and the veneer well dry, one night as a rule is sufficient, and perhaps those who try this experiment will acknowledge and approve of the correctness of the method.

Table Spreads can be made of serge or satin cloth; select a rich dark shade or an extremely pale tint—as the medium colors are not so effective—for the border apple blossoms embroidered in silk show off to splendid advantage, here and there may be added a little humming bird. The blue of their variegated plumage gives a prominent contrast by the side of the flowers, that is remarkably picturesque. Throw across one corner a spray of wheat with three or four brightly hued butterflies flying hither and thither; on the opposite corner embroider a bunch of pansies and daisies, and two honey bees sipping their delicious sweets. Autumn leaves and a small bunch of grapes with leaves are lovely designs for the other two corners.

Carpet Cleaning has received its share of the inventors thoughts, and among the many interesting patents reported by the *Scientific American* there is one for that purpose. A tower is constructed of suitable height, and provided with an endless carrier for elevating the carpets, and also frames over which the carpets are tumbled and rolled in their descent. By this movement the carpets are turned end for end and jostled about, so that practically they clean themselves, and no one carpet comes in contact with another. The operation being in the open air, and the tower open at all sides, the dust and dirt are carried away by the wind.

**How to Keep Cool.** An invention is recorded, we see, of a fan attached to a sewing machine, and when the latter is worked the former violently vibrates and beats the air and makes a disturbance generally, so that the operator is kept cool.

**Iron Safety Shutter,** a new arrangement of light hammered iron is likely to revolutionize the opportunities of the most determined burglars. In design it is ornamental, compact, cheap and efficient. So practical as to be adopted by the Sage of Graystone for his recently finished city house, as also in some other of our noted city residences. It is upon its merits likely to be generally adopted.

**Lambrequins and moldings** are not popular, and people who study taste and effect rather than economy, are hanging their lace draperies on slender rods of gilt or ivory, with rings to match.

**Metalized Tinsels** form no small part in the decoration of upholsteries; and, it is said, are also to be introduced into lace curtains.

**CLARKE & BUCKLEY,**  
MANUFACTURERS OF  
WALNUT, MAHOGANY AND ASH,  
Chamber and Dining-Room  
**FURNITURE.**  
Office and Wareroom at  
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**SOLID LEATHER DECORATIVE NAILS,**  
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American Solid Leather Button Company,  
PROVIDENCE, R. I.,  
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**GOLD SILVER AND COPPER BRONZED EFFECTS**

In these goods are being rapidly introduced for  
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By houses noted for their artistic work; while to the user of Embossed and Illuminated Leather they form a new and valuable aid in securing harmonious results.  
**FOR SALE BY ALL PROMINENT DEALERS.**

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REMOVED TO 133 WEST THIRTY-SECOND STREET,  
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To my Friends and the Public.—Send your orders. I guarantee that all Carpets will be thoroughly cleaned and freed from moth, dust, spots and stains, and we air Carpets thoroughly. I have a reliable system for Packing Carpets for store house or the summer, and warrant them from the ravages of moth. Carpets taken up, cleaned and relaid. Orders sent by mail, also work from out of the city promptly attended to. We would respectfully announce to those having Fine Carpets to clean, that we have for a succession of years past done work for the house of Messrs. Pottier & Styms Co., to whom we refer for our responsibility and work.

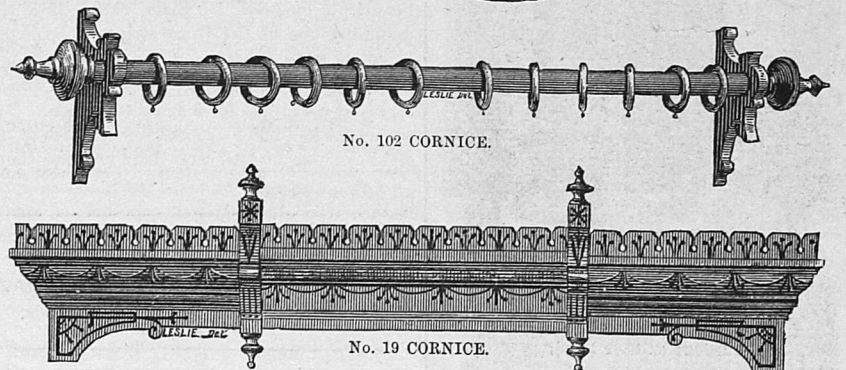
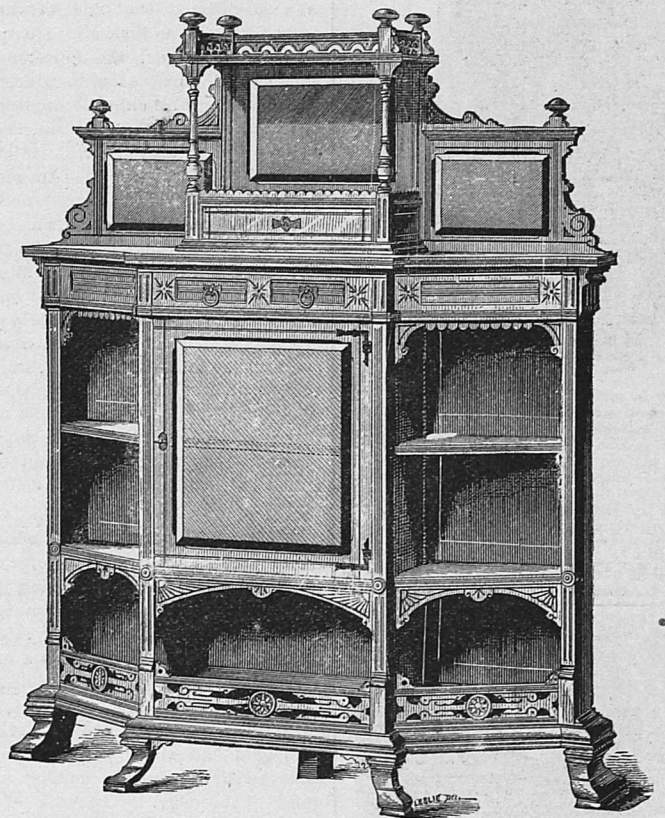


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**WOOD MANTELS.**  
Artistic Styles in any Hard Woods, in Special Designs. Library Tables and Fittings. Bank Counters and Office Desks. Opera Chairs, Church Seating, and School Desks. We acknowledge no superior in these departments all made by  
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PATENT

## Camp & Folding Chairs,

96 CROSS STREET, BOSTON.

SEND FOR CATALOGUE.

## HINTS AND NOTIONS.

—\*—

**Household Dirt.**—The dirt which may be wiped from the walls, swept off the furniture and beaten out of the carpets of any ordinary house, would be sufficient, if it were sprinkled in the form of dust over the patients in the surgical wards of a great hospital, to bring all their wounds into a condition which would jeopardize life. It cannot be supposed that such dirt is innocuous when it is breathed or swallowed, and it certainly possesses the property of absorbing, and retaining for long periods, the contagious matter given off by various diseases. Instances without number are on record in which the poison of scarlet fever, long dormant in a dirty house, has been roused into activity by imperfect attempts at cleansing. The preservation of health is not a mere mechanical question of the perfection of any certain matters, but depends upon the intelligent avoidance of all the causes by which disease is liable to be disseminated.

It will pay Landlords after a tenant has left a house, to immediately give it a thorough sweeping; allow the water to run several minutes in all the sinks, basins, and water-closets; see that no particle of vegetable matter is left in the cellar; leave a window in every room open; scatter a little chloride of lime in the cellar, and place some in a saucer in the bathroom and kitchen. It will take but a few hours to follow these suggestions, and only a few dimes worth of material to carry them out. The house, even if idle for quite a time, will be sweet and wholesome, and the little labor spent will be well rewarded by the praises of new tenants upon the nice clean house they have secured.

A long quilted Sachet is made of satin and plain velvet—the colors should be distinctly opposite, yet in harmony. Select a powder that has a very strong perfume and use it profusely. Lay it in between thin Swiss muslin, which must be nicely covered with the satin and velvet. Finish the sides with a plaiting of Oriental lace. Across one corner lay a moss rose, with bud and leaves embroidered in gold and floss and appliquéd. The crossings of narrow velvet disposed so as to hold in place gloves, handkerchief, &c., can be edged with a small silver cord, which gives a lovely finish to this dainty bit of useful decoration.

A person who would prefer an unseemly door to the graceful folds of a portiere, should be allowed to enjoy the full benefit of such for the rest of his natural life. Doors should be discarded from the interior of houses, except for bedrooms or other private apartments. All reception rooms, dining and drawing rooms, libraries, picture galleries, etc., should have their entrances graced by portieres, though in some cases a door might be used in addition to the curtains.—*The Carpet Trade and Review.*

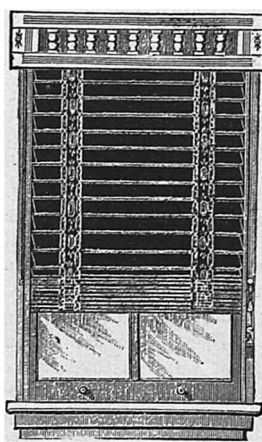
**Gritty Colors.**—The skinning over of color is a common cause of its becoming gritty; for when the skin is not carefully removed, portions of it are broken up and mixed with the color. Color that has been skinned over should be strained before using; or what is better, keep a little varnish and turpentine on top of the color, and thus prevent the skinning over. Ground colors should at all times be kept well covered to exclude the air as much as possible.

A Table Spread may be made of rich golden tinted plush, and adorned with appliqué silver designs. The border to correspond is finished off with silver lace headed with a leaf and bud pattern of appliqué embroidery.

Alligator Skin having become popular in upholstery has extended to the metals and is now imitated in silver, which receives the name of *L'argent pressée*.

GILBERT LEAVITT & CO.,  
MANUFACTURERS OF  
SCOTCH, FRENCH and CREAM  
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For Pianos and Furniture,  
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**THE CALLI-GRAPHIC PEN.**  
A GOLD PEN and RUBBER HOLDER, containing ink for several days' writing. Can be carried in the pocket. Always ready for use. A luxury for persons who care to preserve their individuality in writing.  
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OUR GOODS are Sold by FIRST-CLASS DEALERS.



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Of all sizes, kinds and qualities, Upholstered in the best manner and furnished at short notice. In various shades of

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In Light, Medium, or Dark Tints, or made of Natural Woods, such as Black Walnut, Chestnut, Cherry, Spanish Cedar, Mahogany, Maple, Cypress, Ash or Poplar, in either Varnish or Oil Finish.

Made of Slats, 1¼, 1½, 1¾, 2 or 2½ inches wide, with Linen, Worsted or Silk Trimmings.

These Blinds will fit any window, without alteration to window frames, and are much better and cheaper for Bay Windows than inside shutters.

Used and recommended by the leading Architects of the country.

When estimates are desired, please give exact size of sash (or sash openings).

Illustrated Circular on application. Please mention this paper.

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These Chains are now being used in the William H. Vanderbilt and Samuel J. Tilden mansions, the Union Dime Savings Bank Building, Metropolitan Concert Hall, Belvidere Hotel, American News Company, and the new D. O. Mills Building, St. Paul's Cathedral School, Garden City, and many other public and private buildings in this city and throughout the United States.

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## VARNISHES, &c.,

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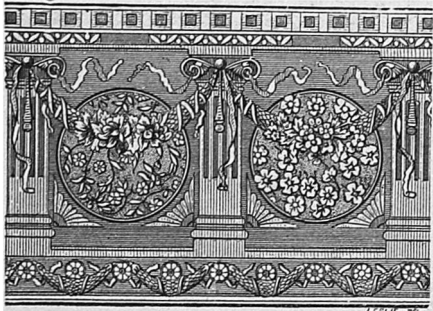
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MANUFACTURERS

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**HINTS AND NOTIONS.**

—\*—

**Sewer Gas.**—In places where it is suspected that this dangerous element is present, it would be well to hang a disk painted with pure white lead, having across it a band of silicate white paint, say "Charlton White." The gas, if present, will certainly discolor the white lead, but will not affect the silicate white, and thus the discoloration of the lead will be quickly and easily observed.

**Smell of Paint.**—To get rid of this most objectionable odor, slice a few onions and put them in a pail of water in the centre of the room; close the doors, leave the window open a little, and in a few hours the disagreeable smell will have almost gone. Another method is to plunge a handful of hay into a pailful of water, and let it stand in the newly-painted room over night.

**To Soften Hardened Putty.**—Take 1 lb. of pearl-ash, 3 lb. of quick stone-lime; slake the lime in water, then add the pearl-ash, and make the whole about the consistency of paint. Apply it to the putty (on both sides of the glass), and let it remain for twelve hours, when the putty will be so softened that the glass may be easily taken out of the frame.

**Black Stencil Paste.**—Bone black, 1 lb.; molasses, 8 oz.; sulphuric acid, 4 oz.; dextrine, 2 oz.; water, sufficient. Mix the acid with about two ounces of water, and add it to the other ingredients previously mixed together. When the effervescence has subsided, enough water is to be added to form a paste of convenient consistency.

A white or tinted Satin Fan, hand painted, is a lovely gift; on the side paint a bit of Ipomea climber; the flowers are marvelously beautiful, the form is graceful, and the foliage is very fine. Heartsease and petunias form a lovely floral design for a white satin fan. Pampas grass, the long plumes wrought in silver thread, gives a rich fan embroidered decoration.

A Sofa Cushion arranged in crimson satin, quilted in tiny shells, has a centre formed of appliqué work; a chenille wrought humming bird, around which is prettily pleated ribbon and lace giving a fine relief effect. Velvet vandykes encircle the cushion, and lace edging gives a lovely finish. The corners are adorned with double faced ribbon bows having four loops and one short end.

Odd bits of silk or stuffs, as varied in color as in shape need not be thrown away or sold to the ragman or sacrificed to the insatiable flames, but may be turned to good account in covering the tops of tables, small tables we mean, and would not be out of place on a bracket.

A Cabinet made by a prominent firm is in rosewood, inlaid with chased brass, the panels and pillars showing magnificent Venetian carving, the cabinet work lined in tufted satin. The doors instead of opening directly out revolve upon angular hinges, exposing the entire shelf to view.

Piano Stools that may have outworn their covering may be re-covered with broadcloth or felt cut the size and shape of the stool top. This may be left plain or may be ornamented with a vine in appliqué work. Around the edge of this sew a regular little lambrequin of broadcloth, felt or velvet.

**Paperhangers' Paste.**—Four pounds of fine wheat flour are mixed with a small quantity of cold water, thoroughly stirred; two ounces of powdered alum are then added, and, when dissolved, a gallon of boiling water. When cool, it may be thinned as desired with cold water, and used.

Colored glass panels, representing incidents from favorite poems, history or fables, are hung in the windows, somewhat on the principle of the almost obsolete transparencies of porcelain or glass, but larger and much richer in effect.

Sideboard Cloths having Russian work done in red and dark blue, are especially desirable for setting off the beauties of glass and silver ware.

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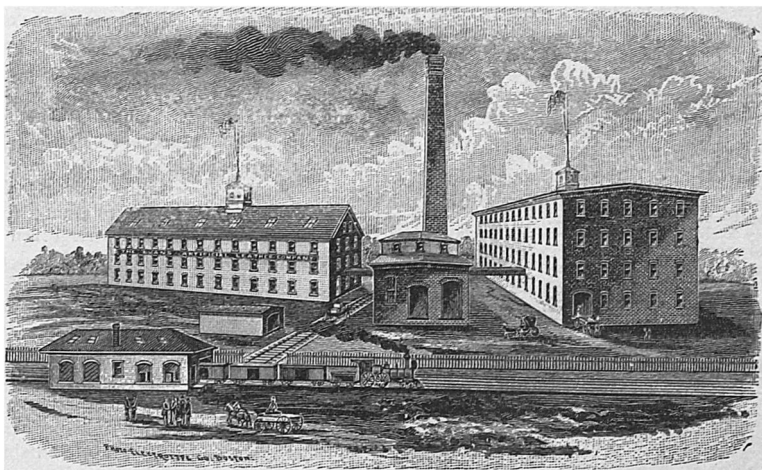
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